

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### THE COMPUTER EQUIPMENT COMMON SENSE DEPRECIATION ACT

#### HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 1999*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation that will return common sense to the Internal Revenue Code by changing the depreciation period for computer equipment.

Currently, for tax purposes computer equipment must be depreciated over a five year period. Ironically, rapid technological advancements now being made in the computer industry guarantee that the average useful life of this equipment is 14–24 months. Highly competitive manufacturing businesses must continually replace computer equipment if they are to remain competitive. Although a business will often purchase a new system after 2 years, it must keep the outdated equipment on the books for 5 years.

This legislation will update the tax code to ensure that it acknowledges ongoing, rapid advancements being made in the computer industry. This measure will change the depreciation period from 5 years to 2 years, ensuring that businesses are not penalized for making investments that ensure their ability to compete. This change will serve to promote economic growth and job creation within these competitive industries.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to join Representative BEN CARDIN, me and other original cosponsors in support of this important legislation.

### HONORING OUTSTANDING RUBEN DEHOYOS

#### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 1999*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ruben deHoyos, one of Baytown, Texas' most prominent citizens. Ruben deHoyos will be honored by the Lee College Educational Access Committee on April 30, 1999.

Ruben deHoyos' achievements and accomplishments are well-known in Baytown. He has helped pave the way for Baytown's growing and vibrant community and he has been instrumental in promoting the importance of education within the Hispanic community.

Mr. Speaker, Ruben deHoyos is a native Baytonian. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy. After the war, he went to work for Humble Oil and Refining where he was

one of the first five Mexican-Americans certified as a technician.

Ruben deHoyos is truly a leader—his list of involvement in civic and community activities and organizations is extensive. He was the first Hispanic elected as president of the 2,600 member Exxon Club. He has served as chairman of the Community Development Advisory Board and was a member of the Human Relations Council of Baytown and the Baytown Development Center. He is a founding member of the very organization that is honoring him—the Lee College Hispanic Access Educational Access Committee, which was created in 1986. Additionally, he has assisted with the development and implementation of a tutorial and parental involvement program at Horace Mann Junior School and Carver Elementary School, where he volunteered for eight years.

Currently Ruben deHoyos serves on the board of the Southwest Resource Credit Union, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the YMCA, Friends of Lee College, Baytown Welfare League, National Notary Association, the American Cancer Society, and the American Diabetes Society. He is also active in the Kiwanis Club of Baytown, HEAC, Exxon Club and the Exxon Annuitants Club. Finally, Ruben deHoyos ably serves on a selection committee that screens applicants who wish to attend our military academies.

Mr. Speaker, Ruben deHoyos is a true civic leader. He is so dedicated and so active in Baytown helping to better educate our children, tomorrow's leaders. On behalf of the citizens of Baytown, I thank him for his hard work and dedication.

### TRIBUTE TO MIKE MADIGAN

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 26, 1999*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to pay tribute to Mike Madigan, who is returning to his roots in the public sector after spending 21 years with Pardee Construction Company. Mike has retired as the Senior Vice President, Development Coordination for Pardee and agreed to coordinate a massive redevelopment project for the City of San Diego in the East Village—a redevelopment project that includes San Diego's new home for our National Baseball League Champion Padres.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of knowing Mike Madigan for many years and found that we have many similarities. I am a life-long Democrat, while Mike belongs to the other party. Mike served San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson for more than five years, while I served Senator Hubert Humphrey. Mike is a

former Naval officer and graduate of San Diego State University. I taught at San Diego State for more than 20 years.

Mike and I also share a deep commitment and dedication to our community. Mike has demonstrated his sense of civic duty in numerous ways. As a testament to his leadership, Mike has chaired the following organizations: the California Water Commission, the San Francisco Bay Delta Advisory Committee, the Bay Delta Oversight Council, Children's Hospital Health Center of San Diego, the San Diego Library Commission, the Board of Directors of the Greater San Diego Chamber of Commerce, the San Diego Armed Services YMCA, the San Diego County Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the San Diego Unit of the American Cancer Society, the San Diego County Water Authority and the San Diego County Council for Equality.

I had the honor of working with Mike Madigan in a number of these capacities. Mike taught me much about land use planning, water policy, and the development of high quality and affordable housing. It was my honor to work with Mike during the development of Pardee's California Terraces project in my Congressional district.

The California Terraces project had to overcome a number of obstacles before it could become reality. Mike had to fully utilize all of his skills and expertise to make this project happen. In the face of opposition on environmental grounds, Mike negotiated with environmental activists, planners and regulatory agencies to preserve needed open space while developing a profitable, yet affordable housing product. Through his efforts, Pardee Construction became a partner with local school districts and as a result, the San Ysidro School District will construct its first elementary school in decades. Mike also helped Pardee establish and support a childcare program operated by the Borderview YMCA. I know that Mike has the same deep concern and affection for Southern San Diego County—and it shows in his pride of the diversity of the homeowners that have selected California Terraces as their new neighborhood.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Madigan has been a true civic leader in San Diego. As an adviser to Mayor Wilson, as a library or water policy "wonk", as chairman of numerous non-profit organizations, and a representative of Pardee Construction, Mike has been one of the most influential San Diegans of his generation. I know that the City of San Diego will benefit from his skills and knowledge as he helps redevelop the East Village and our new ballpark. I hope that my colleagues will join me in extending our best wishes on his new endeavors.

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